

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022

Courant Community

1
Courant Community | Thursday, January 13, 2022

LOCAL NEWS

Sisters open local bakery



Ashli Esteves-Nelson, left, and Marika Esteves-Smith co-own Brown Butter Creations, at 353 New London Turnpike in Glastonbury. Story, page 3. **SUSAN DUNNE/HARTFORD COURANT**

LOCAL NEWS



Ellington's Sophia Vrakas tries a one-handed shot. **STEVE SMITH/COURANT COMMUNITY**

Ellington battles Suffield on the court

Sophia Vrakas led with 17 points, while Julia Sternat and Elizabeth-Rose McGuirl each had 10. **Pages 8-9**

LOCAL NEWS

Locals celebrating milestones

From a third birthday to a 17th birthday and everywhere in between, we wish them all the best. **Page 4**

LOCAL NEWS

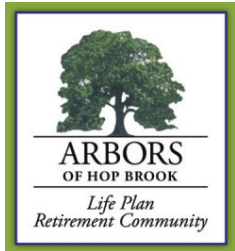
School superintendent seeks 3.8% increase

Glastonbury's Alan Bookman proposed a spending plan of \$117.9 million for the 2022-23 fiscal year. **Page 5**

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hartford Courant

14 • PO Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569 • Please deliver in home January 13 and January

RATE FREEZE UNTIL
March 2024



Schedule Your Tour Today

Contact us for more information



860-724-4711 | ArborsCT.com
403 West Center Street | Manchester, CT 06040

Three Dog Star Rescue volunteers save hundreds of lives

ENFIELD — BLOOMFIELD — Three stand out volunteers at Dog Star Rescue reached the major milestone of fostering over 100 rescue dogs on their journey to finding forever homes.

Katje Pearson, Sue Zeppa and Ali Wasely have collectively saved the lives of 300 dogs and counting by opening up their homes since the rescue began in 2014.

“As a foster-based rescue, foster volunteers are essential to saving dog’s lives,” says Dan McCabe, President & Founder of Dog Star. “Every time a foster dog is taken into a home, a new slot is opened for us to rescue another dog, doubling the impact a foster volunteer makes. These three incredible fosters are perfect examples of volunteers maximizing their impact, as they have gone beyond their foster duties to work in other areas of the rescue, including screening, our medical team and our finance team.”

“Through fostering I get to see the dog’s journey from start to finish,” said Wasely. “There is such joy in watching a dog wag its tail for the first time, or even just eat and drink and learn to be comfortable after they were so unsure.”

“I’m amazed at how easy it is to fall in love with each pup, regardless of how long or short their stay is with me,” Pearson added. “The way my own dogs invite my fosters into the pack and teach them ‘how to dog’ is so endearing.”

“Working with this rescue is one of the highlights of my life,” said Zeppa. “I foster because it reminds me of each individual that we do this all for. Because of fostering, I even found and adopted my own three dogs who were destined to be with me forever.”

Dog Star Rescue was able to find forever families for more than 800 dogs in 2021, which would not have been possible without the kindness of the volunteers who gave these dogs a place to rest, train, exercise and be loved while they waited. With no centralized kenneling facilities, foster homes are essential for the rescue to be able to take in dogs.

“As a rescue, not a shelter, we cannot function without foster volunteers and

we can never have enough,” McCabe said. “We are always looking for dog lovers who want to touch lives and have their lives touched by our dogs.”

Fostering with Dog Star Rescue comes at no cost to the volunteer. All supplies including food, toys and beds are provided thanks to donations from corporate sponsors and the local community. The typical time a volunteer can expect to care for a foster dog is one to three weeks, although this can vary. Visit DogStarRescue.org for more information.

Windsor Locks Library presenting ‘The UFO Experience’

WINDSOR LOCKS — The Windsor Locks Library, 28 Main St., will host best-selling author Stephen Spignesi in-person for “The UFO Experience” on Saturday, Jan. 22, at 1 p.m.

Spignesi will be discussing his book “The Big Book of UFO Facts, Figures, and Truth.” Explore close encounters of the third and fourth kind throughout history and modern day in this presentation. Space is limited. masks are required. Call 860-627-1495 or email windsorlockslibrary@gmail.com to register.

The library is now an Overdrive Advantage member. Patrons can have access to select Overdrive ebooks and audiobooks with no more extended wait times. All they need is a library card.

Download Overdrive and/or Libby on your smartphone, tablet, or computer today to view special Advantage titles! Don’t have a library card or need help setting up the apps? Call 860-627-1495 or stop by the library during normal business hours.

Zoom program on Typhoid Mary taking place

EAST WINDSOR — The Warehouse Point Library will host actress Prudence Wright Holmes and her one woman show, “Typhoid Mary” live on Zoom on Saturday, Jan. 22, at 10:30 a.m.

Typhoid Mary, whose real name was Mary Mallon, was a silent carrier of

typhoid fever, although she never had the disease itself. She infected hundreds of people in her work as a cook, and over 50 of them died. She was put on trial and condemned to live out the rest of her days in isolation on an island off Manhattan.

Holmes is a solo performer in New York City. She has been in four Broadway shows and has done solo shows about Agatha Christie, Harper Lee, Anne Frank and Willa Cather. Visit www.warehousepointlibrary.info to register online. A Zoom link will be sent via email prior to the program.. Contact the library at 860-623-5482 with questions.

Enfield Library hosting Magic program, meet the author

ENFIELD — The Enfield Pearl Street Library, 159 Pearl St., invites teens ages 13 to 18 to Magic the Gathering: Learn & Play on Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 6:30 p.m. This is a drop-in program.

Teens will learn how to play this fantasy combat card game. Participants will receive a starter deck of cards to take home. Enter a drawing to win additional cards to increase your deck. Visit www.enfieldpubliclibrary.org or email kraiche@enfield.org for more information.

Meet the Author Jim Enderle will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, at the Enfield Public Library, 104 Middle Road. Enderle will discuss his book, *Fight, Flight or Freeze: A Love Story*.

Johnson Brunetti collects hundreds of toys

AVON — WETHERSFIELD — Johnson Brunetti Retirement & Investment Specialists held their annual holiday brunch and toy drive in December, where over 100 new toys they collected were presented to the Salvation Army. All contributions were provided to less fortunate families for a bright and memorable holiday season.

Playhouse on Park presents ‘Five Guys

Named Moe’

WEST HARTFORD — *Five Guys Named Moe*, written by Clarke Peters, with music and lyrics by Louis Jordan, will run at Playhouse on Park from Jan. 26 to Feb. 27.

The show is directed and choreographed by Brittney Griffin, with associate choreographer Darius Barnes. Music direction is by Dexter Pettaway.

Tickets are now on sale and range from \$40 to \$50. Student and senior discounts are available. Student Rush is \$10 (cash only), available 15 minutes prior to curtain.

Two p.m. matinees are on Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday. Evening performances are at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, and 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. There will be a talk back with the cast after each Sunday matinee.

COVID-19 Policy: All patrons must be fully vaccinated. Vaccination cards, government issued IDs, and masks are required for all patrons. This policy is in effect through February 2022, and will be evaluated regularly. Visit www.playhouseonpark.org to view the full Covid-19 policy.

For more information or tickets, call the Box Office at 860-523-5900, ext. 10 or visit www.playhouseonpark.org. Playhouse on Park is located at 244 Park Road.

Gallery on the Green hosting Icebreaker exhibit

CANTON — Gallery on the Green, 5 Canton Green Road, will present a themed exhibition, “Icebreaker,” plus a solo show by Don Sexton from Friday, Jan. 14 through Saturday, Feb. 5. Call 860-693-4102 or visit www.galleryonthegreen.org for more information.

The exhibits are free and open to the public from 1 to 5 p.m. every Friday, Saturday and Sunday during this period.

Avon Library hosting virtual author event

AVON — The Avon Free Public Library, 281 Country Club Road, is hosting a virtual event with Alafair Burke, in conversation

Turn to Community News, Page 4

Courant Community

PO Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569 | www.courant.com/community | 860-875-3366 or 888-456-2211

Circulation and delivery

If you wish to have the paper stopped, or to start receiving it, please call **860-525-5555** or **800-472-7377**, or contact Field Operations Manager John Wentworth at jwentworth@courant.com.

News and content submissions

Contact Courant Community Editor Erin Quinlan at **860-875-3366, Ext. 3030** or equinlan@courant.com.

Send press releases, community events and photos, news tips or letters to the editor to community@courant.com.

To submit Good Neighbor items, birthday greetings, engagement or wedding announcements, email community@courant.com.

Send news items by mail to Courant Community, PO Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569, or by fax to 860-875-9552.

Advertising options

To place a commercial classified ad, call 860-870-3044. For all other advertising needs, call 860-875-3366 or 888-456-2211.



Scan with your smartphone to shop at the Hartford Courant Store mobile website.

Sisters open Brown Butter Creations bakery in Glastonbury

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

In the One Stop Plaza on the New London Turnpike in Glastonbury, there is a pizza place, a deli, a Korean café and a rotisserie chicken joint. Now there is a place for dessert: Brown Butter Creations, a bakery run by two sisters from Glastonbury who have built a local following since starting an online business in 2018.

Ashli Esteves-Nelson and Marika Esteves-Smith co-own Brown Butter Creations with Esteves-Nelson's husband, Reggie Nelson. The name of the business comes from their favorite ingredient.

"We use brown butter in many recipes. It has a nutty flavor that brings out the deliciousness," Esteves-Smith says. "It's in that happy medium between melted and burned."

Another of their favorite ingredients is coconut.

"It smells like vacation. When the weather is so cold like it is now, it brings a little warmth," Esteves-Nelson says.

Esteves-Smith does most of the cooking. She started cooking in childhood with her godmother, who owned Sweet and Savory Creations, a catering business in Glastonbury. Esteves-Smith graduated from the famed hospitality program at Johnson & Wales University. She has worked as a pastry chef at Loomis Chaffee School, at The River in Wethersfield and at Dee's One Smart Cookie in Glastonbury.

She and Esteves-Nelson are helped in the shop by their parents, Debbie and Eddie Esteves.

"We pulled them out of retirement," Esteves-Nelson says.

The store's motto comes from a



Ashli Esteves-Nelson, left, and Marika Esteves-Smith co-own Brown Butter Creations at 353 New London Turnpike in Glastonbury. **SUSAN DUNNE/HARTFORD COURANT**

comment Eddie Esteves often makes when he eats something delicious and wants seconds: "Tastes like more."

Esteves-Nelson has a degree in marketing from Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia. She was working in the supply chain management division at Pratt & Whitney in 2018 when she and her sister decided to start an online bakery business. They got their start at Hands On Hartford. Early in the pandemic, they transitioned to a cottage business, working from Esteves-Smith's house in Glastonbury.

By law, cottage businesses that earn more than \$25,000 a year must move on to a commercial license. That's how the successful startup went brick and mortar.

"We had gained traction in the Glastonbury community," Esteves-Nelson says.

They did this with many pop-up sales and food drives for Hands on Hartford's Backpack Nutrition Program.

The women found a vacant storefront in the One Stop Plaza that used to be an eyebrow-threading studio. They started building out their kitchen in September. The store



Marika Esteves-Smith whips up pastries at Brown Butter Creations in Glastonbury.



Some of the treats at Brown Butter Creations are, clockwise from top left, snickerdoodle bars, lime-coconut donuts, chocolate chip cookie-canoli sandwiches and pecan bars.

opened on Dec. 7.

In the small shop, the sisters whip up a variety of pastries for takeout: donuts, cupcakes, dessert bars, tarts, homemade pop tarts, cakes and cookies, including their signature cookie, the indulgently rich Brown Butter Maple. Cakes include such indulgent flavors as Brown Butter Caramel Crunch and Chocolate Peanut Butter Explosion. They also make custom cakes and seasonal

pies.

The have fun with their daily specials. In mid-December, it was tomato-pesto tarts. During the Christmas season, it was "Holiday in a Cup," of gingerbread cake, eggnog cream and salted caramel. On National Bacon Day, they made "maple bacon everything." Sometimes their specials are a little wild, like the Pumpkin Cheesecake filled Oreo Brownie.

The business has benefited from the proximity of the restaurants in the plaza.

"We get a lot of foot traffic at lunchtime," Esteves-Nelson says.

The store, at 353 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Brown Butter Creations is closed on Sunday and Monday. brownbuttercreations.com.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

ORTHOPEDIC UPDATE

"Dr. Daniel is highly qualified for hip and knee replacement surgery"

— ROBERT McALLISTER, MD



CHAD DANIEL, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon

ROBERT McALLISTER, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon

Chad Daniel, MD recently joined Hartford Orthopedic Surgeons and has unique fellowship training in advanced robotic joint replacement surgery. He is passionate about customizing the right treatment plan for his patients, whether it be physical therapy, medications, or joint replacement surgery. **For an appointment call (860) 525-4469.**



ROCKY HILL
(Walk-in)
1111 Cromwell Ave.
Bldg. 4, Ste. 404

MANCHESTER
(Walk-in)
277 W. Middle Tpke.

AVON
(Walk-in)
31 Ensign Dr.

WILLIMANTIC
5 Founders St.
Ste. 202

ENFIELD
9 Cranbrook Blvd.
2nd floor

hftdorthosurg.com

Community News

from Page 2

with Ivy Pochoda, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20, via Zoom. Visit www.avonctlibrary.info to register.

With her newest, addictive thriller “Find Me,” New York Times bestselling author Burke takes readers on a roller coaster ride, where three women’s search for long-buried secrets will upend everything they’ve ever known.

Simsbury Library presenting trivia, cocoa talk

SIMSBURY — The Simsbury Public Library, 725 Hopmeadow St., is hosting the following programs. Visit <http://www.simsburylibrary.info/> or call 860-658-7663, ext. 2112, for more information.

A virtual Schitt’s Creek trivia night will take place Wednesday, Jan. 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Test your knowledge of the Schitt’s Creek world and Rose family drama. Prizes will be awarded and dressing as your favorite character is encouraged. The event is open to teens and adults.

Simple Nutritious Ways to Add Cocoa and Chocolate to your Diet will take place live on Thursday, Jan. 20, from 1 to 2 p.m. Join Shana, Registered Dietitian as she reviews creative ways to add cocoa, which is heralded for its wide-ranging health benefits, to your life this winter and beyond.

Odiyana Center presents Buddhist Retreat

VERNON — GLASTONBURY — Buddhist Retreat: How to Find the Real

CROSSWORD ANSWERS FOR TODAY’S PUZZLE

S	E	T	E	S	E	R	S	E	T	S	T	L	S	
P	E	R	I	P	E	T	R	I	P	E	T	R	I	P
O	N	E	C	A	V	E	G	A	V	E	G	A	V	E
G	N	I	N	A	V	E	C	L	E	G	I	N	G	I
			S	R	S									
S	S	S				D	A	R	T	S	E	S	S	S
N	E					E	R	A	T					
T	E					S	P	R	I	N	G	I		
O	N	E	O			A	V	O	N	A			R	A
S	K	S				H	S			E	M	I	T	O
						T	O	R						
G	N	I	N	I	A	V	E	T	R	I	G	N	I	P
A	N	A	N			A	S	A	V	A	N	E	R	A
R	E	A	V			T	E	S		S	A	V	A	L
L	S	E				A	R	C	S					

Meaning of Human Life will be offered via livestream and in-person from Jan. 14 to 17 at Odiyana Center, 450 New London Turnpike.

Everyone is welcome to this retreat on the stages of the path to enlightenment. Through engaging in meditation, learn to focus on your good qualities, positive intentions and your potential for inner peace and wisdom. Sessions include guided meditation and practical advice to carry into daily life. No experience is necessary.

Cost is \$70 for the full retreat or \$25 per day. No one is turned away for lack of funds. Visit meditationinconnecticut.org for more information.

Manchester Library offering intuitive eating program

MANCHESTER — The Manchester Library system will host Lauren Rosenfeld of ECHN to speak about intuitive eating on Thursday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 p.m. at the Whiton Branch Library, 100 North Main St.

Intuitive eating is a ‘non-diet’ approach to a healthier relationship with food. Rosenfeld, a Registered Dietitian, will discuss what intuitive eating is and will describe how to identify hunger and fullness cues. She will explain how intuitive eating can improve one’s relationship with food.

This is a free program for adults but registration is required. Call 860-645-0821 to register. For more information on this event, visit <http://library.town-ofmanchester.org> or call 860-645-0821.

Hillstown Grange hosting pancake breakfast in February

EAST HARTFORD — The Hillstown Grange, 617 Hills St., is holding a mid-winter pancake breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 5, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. The Jan. 8 breakfast was canceled.

The February menu features pancakes, sausage, coffee, tea, juice and the special of blueberry pancakes with warm blueberry sauce and a new flavor, lemon pancakes. Cost to attend is \$5 general admission and \$3 for children 14 and under. Regular pancakes are all-you-can-eat and coffee is bottomless.

The upstairs hall now has a library which has opened with a special area for reading, playing games, or just visiting with old friends. Books are available for a donation to the building fund. Call Frank at 860-690-2845 or email hillstown-grange@aol.com for more information.

Turn to Community News, Page 7

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Courant Community will print a current birthday photo FREE in one edition. Submit a current photo and 15-word description including name, age, birthday, town, your name, daytime phone number to community@courant.com or to Courant Community, P.O. Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141. Please submit three weeks in advance to avoid disappointment.



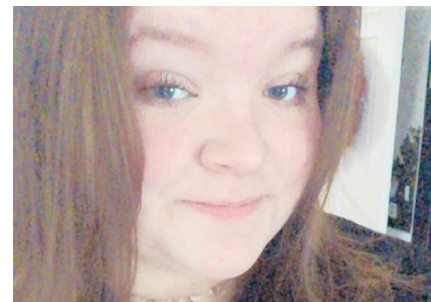
Happy 5th Birthday, Sarah (1/8): “You are the twinkle of our eyes. Love to you from all of us.”



Happy 12th Birthday, Addison (1/12): “Wishing you nothing but the best in life! Love, Nana and Grandpa.”



Happy 6th Birthday, Anderson and Benjamin (1/20): “To the biggest NASCAR fans we know. Love, Nana and Grandpa.”



Happy 17th Birthday, Boney! (1/18): “We love you very much Hollis, and go Falcons! xo JR and TR.”



Happy 12th Birthday, Hunter (1/7): “Where do the years go? We wish you the best birthday ever. Love, Your Family.”



Happy 6th Birthday, Hunter (2/6): “You are amazing! Love and cheers! Mimi, Gramps, and Aunt Kitty.”



Happy 3rd Birthday, Himaa (1/14): “Cheers to our Little Lark entering the fourth round in the sky of life!”



Happy 4th Birthday, Shriya (1/16): “Your baba, mommy, and Sam bhai love you to the moon and back!”

LOCAL NEWS

Glastonbury school superintendent seeks 3.8% increase

By Steve Smith
Courant Community

GLASTONBURY — Citing pivots in the past, present, and future due to COVID-19, Glastonbury Superintendent Alan Bookman proposed a spending plan of \$117.9 million for the 2022-23 fiscal year - a 3.8% increase over the current year.

The theme of the presentation, Bookman said, is called "Building Bridges That Last."

"We certainly have had our share of obstacles over the past year and a half," Bookman said. "Bridges help us over obstacles. They keep us moving forward."

The four "bridges" that the district are building are social and emotional learning, supports for special education, technology applications, and the GHS STEAM Lab, all of which are primary drivers of the increase in the proposal.

Social and emotional learning, Bookman said, includes support for students needing mental healthcare, which has increased during the pandemic. While the district has been building its social and emotional programs for years, and will

be building that with three new counselors and three new paraprofessionals.

Supporting special education, Bookman said, has been one of the district's biggest challenges, with vacant positions, increasing student needs, providing services remotely and mitigating abrupt changes in routine. Bookman said 18 new paraprofessionals are called for and are in the proposed budget.

While many technology companies provided educational assets for free or at reduced rates at the start of the pandemic, they are no longer available for no cost, and existing software costs have also risen.

Glastonbury's STEAM Lab is slated for construction and will be completed by the fall of 2022. The lab will provide learning opportunities, via already-approved STEAM courses, that will prepare students to be members of the high-tech workforce.

"The lab will provide a modern space for all students to learn skills that employers and colleges are looking for today and in the future," Bookman said, adding that

mechatronics equipment will be a key component to the laboratory.

"Mechatronics is a cutting-edge, interdisciplinary branch of engineering, with real-world impact," Bookman explained. "It brings together mechanical, electrical, computer, and robotics engineering."

The largest portion of the budget is salary increases for current employees, which will cost \$2.1 million, or an increase of 1.84%.

Enrollment projections, Bookman said, include 75 fewer students at the high school level, which would call for a reduction of three full-time teaching positions. One teacher is expected to be added to the elementary level. However, Bookman said typically adjustments to staffing levels come in the summer, as enrollment becomes more clear.

The board was expected to finalize its budget at its meeting, on Jan. 10. The annual town meeting is set to take place later in January (date TBD), and the town's final budget meeting will take place in March.

For the complete proposal, visit www.glastonburyus.org.

Over
25 Years
Experience

M.J. Emonds
We Can Help
MECHANICAL
CONTRACTORS LLC

COMFORT
SPECIALIST

Heating, Air Conditioning, Sheet Metal Fabrication

- 24-hour emergency service
- Fully licensed & insured
- Commercial/Residential

www.emonds.com
17 Nutmeg Lane, Glastonbury

860-657-4554

Lic. #392776

We can help you stop drafts and make your home more energy efficient with new Windows!

**1/2 OFF WINDOW
INSTALLATION
NOW UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2022!**

CALL TODAY!
860-362-2432

AWS
Advanced Window Systems, LLC
Windows • Siding • Roofing • Doors

Connecticut Registration #0556507 Massachusetts Registration #176974 Licensed and Fully Insured.
Offer Valid 1/1/22-1/31/22. *This ad supersedes all others. *Some restrictions may apply.
Offers cannot be combined.



GLASTONBURY

Citing pivots in the past, present, and future due to COVID-19, Glastonbury Superintendent Alan Bookman proposed a spending plan of \$117.9 million for the 2022-23 fiscal year - a 3.8% increase over the current year. **MARK MIRKO / HARTFORD COURANT**

Pandemic helps fuel strong home sale market in 2021

By Kenneth R. Gosselin

Hartford Courant

The strongest residential real estate market in a decade — touched off by the pandemic — set the stage for 2021's home buying frenzy across much of Connecticut, which was boosted by a shift in housing needs as a result of COVID-19 and marked by surging sale prices.

Three times — in February, March and July — the Hartford metro area drew national attention for its stunning drop in inventory of homes for sale in countrywide rankings of hot home sale markets by real estate giant RE/MAX. The Hartford metro area, which includes Hartford, Tolland and Middlesex counties, topped the list of 53 metros in February for inventory declines.

"We are literally calling people in neighborhoods and saying, 'Listen, do you know anyone who wants to sell?'" Alison Malkin, head broker at RE/MAX Essential in Avon, said in an interview in March.

The Hartford Courant selected the state's home sale market as one of the top 10 stories for 2021. Courant editors selected the top stories of the year based on reader interest and significance.

The plunge in inventory set up one of the strongest sellers' markets in years as buyers aggressively sought out properties. Some of the most attractive listings received dozens of offers, and sale prices routinely rose above the asking price.

"When they are talking about inventory levels being extremely low, it's literally unheard of, what we are seeing," Kurt Potter, a real estate broker at RE/MAX Right Choice Real Estate in Glastonbury, said in an April interview. "I've never seen this in the 25, 26 years of doing this ever, not even close."

The frenzied pace of buying and selling began in 2020, touched off by the pandemic. Activity was driven in part by buyers fleeing urban areas such as New York and Boston after gaining new freedom in the remote workplace.

But it also was heavily influenced by buyers already in the state needing more space as they settled into remote working and schooling. As the pandemic dragged on through the year, some large corporate employers in the Hartford area moved to make working from home permanent for some of their employees.

Strong home sales marched through much of the 2021, ignoring more traditional seasonal buying and selling periods, including the spring, long considered to be the most active of the year.

The dramatic upswing in sales was welcome in the Greater Hartford and Connecticut home sale markets, much of which had struggled since a deep housing downturn in the late 2000s.

Some worried that an overheated market could tank, but real estate agents said they expected the state's market to settle into more normal buying and selling patterns in 2022.

By the fall of 2021, there were the first signs of a modest slowdown as residential sales eased a bit, though the number of homes on the market

remained tight.

"So, it's definitely slowed — and I don't mean it's crashing — it's slowed from the frenzy," RE/MAX Essential's Malkin, said in an interview in October. "You're not having bloody wars. That doesn't mean you're not having bidding wars. We just went live with a listing a couple of days ago and got a bunch of offers, but not 44 offers. We're talking four offers. And did we sell it for over asking? Absolutely."

The pipeline of residential properties became further constrained. Sellers who might have considered putting their house up for sale worried that they might not be able to find another property to buy.

Other would-be sellers, agents said, looked at recent low-rate mortgage refinancings and decided to stay put, rather than jumping into the purchasing fray.

Homeowners who did decide to list were generally advised by agents not to set an asking price too high, as buyers turned more price sensitive.

Buyers "are tired of putting offers on properties and not getting them," Candace Adams, president and chief executive of Wallingford-based Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New England Properties, said in an interview in October. "They are tired of being in a market that has been so lofty and frothy, and so, some buyers are choosing to rent and wait this out until they have a better selection."

Nationally, home sales remain resilient, according to the National Association of Realtors, an industry group, even with inventory generally low and rising prices crimping affordability. But pressures from inflation "such as fast-rising rents and increasing consumer prices may have some prospective buyers seeking the protection of a fixed, consistent mortgage payment," Lawrence Yun, NAR's chief economist, said a week ago.

A recent report from the Greater Hartford Association of Realtors, an industry group, showed further evidence of a slowdown in sales in the Hartford area amid scant inventory as 2021 drew to a close.

Sales in the association's territory of 27 towns and cities in the Hartford area fell nearly 2% in November, compared with the same month a year earlier. Inventory continued to be tight, down 32% compared with a year earlier.

Even so, the median sale price — in which half the sales are above, half below — jumped more than 9% in November to \$300,000 from \$275,000.

The association tracks towns and cities stretching from Suffield to Rocky Hill and Canton to Willington.

"Our fall housing market is settling down a bit when compared to the very active summer market," Holly Callahan, the association's chief executive, said. "Even with low inventory, there are buyers looking to take advantage of low interest rates."

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com.

BUSINESS



The Department of Consumer Protection will begin taking the first applications for adult-use cannabis establishment licenses in early February. **FILE PHOTO**

State to begin taking first applications for cannabis businesses

By Stephen Singer

Hartford Courant

The state Department of Consumer Protection will begin accepting the first applications for certain adult-use cannabis establishment license types in early February.

A panel establishing a framework for the sale of legal marijuana in Connecticut also approved criteria to ensure that Black and other underserved communities targeted by government's war on drugs have access to the lucrative market.

The Social Equity Council approved a workforce development plan, proof of residency and income requirements, ownership control rules and other regulations.

"Today is a huge deal," said Ginne-Rae Clay, interim executive director of the council.

Last week, the department said that 56 first-round licenses will be available for retailers, micro-cultivators, delivery service, food and beverage businesses, manufacturers, transporters and others. They are evenly split among social equity and general licenses.

Applications for social equity cultivator licenses located in areas that are considered "disproportionately impacted" will have a one-time 90-day application period beginning Feb. 3 and ending May 4.

The Department of Consumer Protection will schedule several lotteries and announce the number of available licenses before each application round.

The General Assembly and Gov. Ned Lamont last year enacted legislation legalizing adult use of cannabis and included key provisions to

address long-standing inequities. The law includes a "social equity" provision intended to provide those hurt by the prohibition of marijuana an expedited opportunity to enter the potentially lucrative cannabis market.

Criteria approved by the council include requirements for Connecticut-based workforce training programs to support business start-ups. It anticipates at least 51% of those served to be individuals who live in areas disproportionately affected by the government's war on drugs and Black and other communities of color.

The state also will require cannabis businesses to prove they plan to hire workers, boost skills and define "career pathways."

It defines a social equity applicant as a business seeking a license for a cannabis establishment that's at least 65% owned and controlled by an individual or individuals who had an average household income of less than 300% of the state median household income, which was about \$74,000 in 2021, over three years.

The agency said it expects to open a second lottery application period for most license types in the second half of the year.

DCP will schedule a social equity lottery and a general lottery. Applicants selected in the social equity lottery are subject to review by the Social Equity Council.

The DCP and Social Equity Council will review and vet applications that are randomly selected through the lottery.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

GOOD NEIGHBOR

Your reader-to-reader column

FREE

TELEVISION: Vintage 1993 Magnavox 13" Color TV. Excellent condition. 860-553-7385.

PLAYER PIANO: Antique player piano with bench and player rolls. Will split cost of movers. 860-646-5845.

TV: Sony Color Trinitron TV, 32 inch. Excellent condition. Must pick up. 860-648-2891.

QUESTIONS

DRONE FOUND: Vicinity of Elm St & Courtney Drive, Rocky Hill. Text with description for return. 860-402-2655.

FOUND EYEGLASSES: Eyeglasses found on Carriage Drive, Manchester. 860-646-4242.

CPAP Machine: Senior in need of an inexpensive but working CPAP machine. 860-512-0684.

AUTO MECHANIC: Seeking auto mechanic to repair pickup truck. Am senior citizen, phone with reasonable price. 860-796-6132.

FURNITURE: Seeking a light wooden chest having five drawers in good condition. Call after 5 p.m. 860-665-0141.

LOST BRACELET: Bracelet lost at ALDIs of Rocky Hill by carriages. It was a birthday gift. Call if found. 860-778-8556.

PUZZLE SWAP: Will meet half way if too far to go. Have 20, most new. 860-568-1378.

SEEKING ITEMS FOR GAS ENGINE: Need flywheel and electric starter for 8 H.P. Briggs and Stratton gas engine. 860-633-5329.

SEEKING BOAT TRAILER: Small boat trailer for a 12' boat, will buy. 860-741-2633.

NECKLACE FOUND: On Carillon Drive, Rocky Hill. Call with description for return. 860-965-6672. Messages will be returned.

SNOW SHOVELING HELP: Senior looking for an individual to shovel out parking space and clean off car after snow storms in Collinsville. 860-305-6701.

CAR: Seeking automobile to help out with transportation in 2022. Elderly with low Social Security. 860-515-1488.

LAPTOPS: Collecting used or new laptops from kind donors. These laptops will be donated to school kids in Ghana. Contact Ben, 423-676-8815.

NAUTICAL ROPE: Looking for free ½- or ¾-inch nautical rope for DIY projects. 860-490-8956.

PROPANE: Seeking propane Salamander. Will pay a reasonable price. 860-749-2190.

LAWN MOWING, SNOW REMOVAL: Does anyone know of someone who mows grass and/or plows snow? 860-289-0101 after 5 p.m.

CAR: Seeking a donated good running car for elderly person in Putnam for doctor appointments. Cannot afford one. 508-335-5060. Leave a message.

Be a good neighbor

To submit, send an email to community@courant.com or mail to 285 Broad St., Hartford, CT 06115. Good Neighbor is a service by Courant Community. Questions and answers are provided by our readers and are not verified. Medical information cannot be published. Caution should be exercised at all times. The publisher is not responsible for damage to any person or property.

Community News

from Page 4

Library hosting programs on baking, book club, climate change

SOUTH WINDSOR — The South Windsor Public Library, 1550 Sullivan Ave., presents the following events. Call 860-644-1541 or email sandyw@libraryconnection.info for more information.

On Jan. 18 at 7 p.m., Tom Reershemius will virtually present Ch-Ch-Changes: Climate Today and In Earth's Past. Reershemius is a graduate researcher in Geochemistry at Yale University. He will talk about how the climate has changed in the past, how it is changing now and offer some ideas on what to do about it. This will be a Zoom program. Call 860-644-1541 or email refswpl@libraryconnection.info for more information or to register.

All needlework crafters and readers are invited to South Windsor Library Unraveled, a Zoom meeting, on Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. The group will discuss The Bear and the Nightingale by Katherine Arden. Books are available at the library. Call 860-644-1541 or email knoonan@libraryconnection.info to register with your email address. New members are welcome. You do not have to read the book to attend.

The Happy Cookers will meet at the library on Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. or online in this hybrid meeting featuring "The Great British Baking Tour." UK travel/relocation consultant and former UK resident Claire Evans will lead a culinary tour of the UK inspired by "The Great British Baking Show" television series.

Learn about making a proper cup of tea, regional specialties, their origins and the particular parts of the UK they hail from. She'll translate the trickiest parts of British recipes for Americans.

Call 860-644-1541 or email refswpl@libraryconnection.info to register. Attendees will gather in the Friends Room at the library to watch Claire, who will be on Zoom. New members are welcome but you don't need to be a member to attend this program.

South Windsor American Legion Post 133 cancels meetings

SOUTH WINDSOR — The Jan. 18

meeting of the Abe E. Miller American Legion Post is canceled due to the increase in the COVID-19 positivity rate. The Jan. 20 veterans' coffee hour is also canceled. Contact Ken Lewis at 860-416-5276 for more information.

Vernon Garden Club presents program on container gardening

VERNON — On Monday, Jan. 17, the Vernon Garden Club invites members to attend its program, "Container Gardening: Unusual Pots, Vertical Spaces and Shade Design Panel Discussion."

The program will begin at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Vernon, 695 Hartford Turnpike. A business meeting will follow. Guests are welcome. For more information, call 860-926-4332.

A short video will be presented that showcases the many possibilities of container gardening using different and recycled items to create an interesting arrangement. A panel discussion will take place immediately afterward to discuss experiences, tips, and tricks from the panel and club members about container gardening. A question and answer session will follow.

Library offering virtual program on heart health

VERNON — Rockville Public Library, 52 Union St., is hosting a Zoom program on improving heart health at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19. Jill Patterson, RDN is an award-winning registered dietitian nutritionist, certified fitness instructor and personal trainer. She specializes in employee wellness and school nutrition and is passionate about helping people live their happiest healthiest lives. Registration is required. Call 860-875-5892, ext. 3916, for more information.

Arts Center East presents photography exhibit, more

VERNON — Arts Center East, 709 Hartford Turnpike, is hosting its 10th annual photography exhibit from now through Jan. 29.

Gallery hours are Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. The exhibit is viewable online. Visit www.artscentereast.org/annual-photography-exhibit to view the exhibit, sponsored by Frame Dimensions and Shortell Framing.

A call for artists for the fiber arts exhibit is ongoing until Jan. 17. The exhibit dates are Feb. 5 to 26. This exhibit is open to all fiber artists, whether you work in felting, quilting, embroidery, knitting, crochet, hat making, textiles, wearable art, or mixed fiber arts. Visit www.artscentereast.org/fiber-arts for more information.

The ACE Book Club is meeting virtually via Zoom at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19. The book is Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann. If you are new to the ACE Book Club and would like to join the January meeting, email info@artscentereast.org. Classes offered include pastel painting and clay hand building. Visit the website for more information.

Joshua's Trust offering Nordic walking event

COLCHESTER — **WINDHAM** — Joshua's Trust is offering a Nordic walking program at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15. Meet at Allanach-Wolf Woodlands, 171 Back Road.

Nordic walking is walking using ski poles or retractable poles. The walk will be led by John Hankins. If there is more than 3 inches of snow on the ground, bring snowshoes. Bring your own poles and dress for the weather. Email activities@joshuastrust.org to sign up.

ACT presents Student Dance Showcase

WILLIMANTIC — **EASTCONN**'s Arts at the Capitol Theater magnet school will present "Lovely: Student Dance Showcase 2022" on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 21 and 22, at 7 p.m. on the Capitol Theater's main stage, 896 Main St.

This family-friendly, annual dance performance is open to the public. The evening will feature a variety of original solo, duet and group performances choreographed by student Dance pathway majors at ACT.

In preparing for Lovely, students were inspired by the concept of universal love. Through a range of dance genres — jazz, hip hop, ballet and contemporary — students will portray elements of attraction, insecurity, reluctance, fear, hope and even physical abuse, as they explore different stages of romantic relationships ranging from first love to divorce.

ACT students performing in Lovely include seniors Alanis Mendez

Turn to Community News, Page 10



Suffield's Lexi Mailloux tries to get a shot at the bucket, but is disrupted by Ellington's Ally Carrier. **STEVE SMITH / COURANT COMMUNITY PHOTOS**

Wildcats top Knights in holiday break matchup

By Steve Smith
Courant Community

SUFFIELD — The Suffield High School girls' basketball team came away with a 61-43 win over Ellington, as the teams squared off on Dec. 30. Suffield improved to 2-1, while the Knights fell to 0-2.

Suffield's Jordan Dion had 24 points and Cami Bosco had 11. Both are seniors.

Ellington junior Sophia Vrakas led the Knights in scoring with 17, while senior Julia Sernat and Elizabeth-Rose McGuirl, a freshman, each had 10.

For complete schedules, visit www.ciacsports.com.



Ellington's Sophia Vrakas tries a one-handed shot.



Suffield's Cami Bosco keeps the ball away from Ellington's Julia Sernat.



Laureen F. Rubino, M.D.
Board Certified General Surgeon

**EFFECTIVE NON-INVASIVE IN-OFFICE
VARICOSE VEIN TREATMENT.**
Call today to schedule a private evaluation.

945 Main Street, Suite 105, Manchester, CT
860.645.1232
www.laureenrubinomd.com



**GOTTIER
FUEL CO., INC.**

Keeping Our Neighbors Warm Over 55 Years

- Full Service Fuel Co.
- Automatic Oil Delivery
- Maintenance Plan Only \$196^(PLUS TAX)
- Affordable Oil Plans
- Free Estimates

860-875-6281
221 West Main St. Vernon, CT
Lic.#308294-S3 HOD#257









Homing In
SUNDAYS IN
Home &
Real Estate

Marford Courant



at. Bosco had 11 points in the game, which Suffield won.



Suffield's Ava Toomey gets a shot away past Ellington's Sophia Vrakas.



Suffield's Olivia Matthews and Ellington's Grace Bontempo both scramble after a loose ball.

Meet Princess!

Princess hails from the island of Bali where she was rescued from the streets and rehabilitated. She will thrive in a very special home where she can feel loved and secure. Her adult family will need to be very understanding of her shy ways, will give her an active life, a fenced-in yard and will have a dog of her size to give her confidence! Princess is 20 lbs, around 2 years old, and crate trained. To learn more, please contact Our Companions at



860.242.9999 Ext. 302
OurCompanions.org
Helpline@OurCompanions.org



**Our
Companions**
Animal Rescue & Sanctuary



Windsor Locks Oil Company

**Save with Cash
C.O.D. and Automatic Delivery!**

Order Online Receive 2 Cents Off! www.windsorlocksoil.com

- Same Day Delivery • Full Service
- Budget Plans • Automatic Delivery

860-623-1214

556 Elm Street, Windsor Locks, CT



"You'll never get an answering machine."
Boiler & Furnace Tuneups

24/7 SERVICE
HOD #479
License no. 1129835

FUSCO BROS

88 Day, Hill Road, Windsor

Making Warm Friends Since 1930

A Full Service Company

24 Hour Emergency
Burner Service
Burner Installations
Service Contracts
Furnace Installations
Volume Discounts

Order Online
Receive
2 Cents Off!

SAVE WITH CASH!
C.O.D. & AUTOMATIC
CT License #1129835
HOD #1041

860-688-5234
We Accept All Major Credit Cards

fuscobrothersoil.com



CROSSWORD Solution located elsewhere in this section

Resilient

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13				14		15				16			
17						18				19			
20					21					22			
			23				24						
25	26	27		28		29	30		31		32	33	34
35				36						37			
38			39					40	41	42			
43							44				45		
46				47	48		49				50		
			51			52		53		54			
	55	56					57	58			59	60	61
62					63					64			
65					66					67			
68					69					70			

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE By Charles Preston

ACROSS

- 1 Minim
- 5 Circumference segments
- 9 *Fraulein's* name
- 13 Crater contents
- 15 Install
- 16 Paraphernalia
- 17 Combat site
- 18 Poet Teasdale
- 19 Darling dog
- 20 Seasonal activity
- 23 Fuss
- 24 Easy gait
- 25 Cpl., e.g.
- 28 Tiny creature
- 31 Evades work
- 35 Henley implement
- 36 Dwarf buffalo
- 37 Prefix for wine lover
- 38 Hunter's dog
- 43 Emerald Isle
- 44 Part of QED
- 45 Hillary Clinton, ____ Rodham
- 46 Is impudent
- 49 Pub flyer
- 50 Draft org.
- 51 Pine or spruce
- 53 Campus VIPs

- 55 Seasonal activity
- 62 Mentor
- 63 James, of letters
- 64 Indian craft
- 65 One of the Waughs
- 66 Western arts center
- 67 Caen specialty
- 68 One of seven
- 69 Gaelic
- 70 Hot times, in Paris

DOWN

- 1 "____ poor Yorick. . ."
- 2 Camper's groundsheet
- 3 Finished
- 4 Craze
- 5 Hd. honcho's helper
- 6 Stern
- 7 Gemstone measure
- 8 Treads and risers
- 9 Auto necessity
- 10 Jack Sprat's diet
- 11 Trilled
- 12 NOW concern
- 14 Bedtime visitor
- 21 Auctioneer's word
- 22 Japanese drama
- 25 Facial features
- 26 *Lost Horizon* director
- 27 Perfume source
- 29 Ballerina's pointe

- 30 Like some owls
- 32 Equestrian controls
- 33 Bees' joints?
- 34 Boot parts
- 39 Play the pedant
- 40 Mme. in Madrid
- 41 Grammarian's word
- 42 Make like a magnet
- 47 ____ *Tu*, Verdi aria
- 48 Congress component
- 52 Actress Samantha
- 54 Rabbit catcher
- 55 Moros tribe member
- 56 Elected off.
- 57 Corporate VIPs
- 58 ____ majesty
- 59 Monogram pt.
- 60 Informal negative
- 61 Gosh's cousins
- 62 Four qts.

Community News

from Page 7

(Windham), Aria Martin (Norwich), Ariana Sandi (Coventry), Bianca Pontes (Norwich), Taegan Praytor (Hampton, Student Dance Company director) and Emma Paterson (Manchester); juniors Alora Kerwin (Tolland), Madison Dufault (Sterling), Sam Mallory (Coventry) and Samantha Perry (Lebanon); and sophomores Alexis Butler (Baltic), Emma Kent (Ashford), Kaylie Nazarko (Norwich), Layla Edminton (Sterling) and Madisyn Raymond (Thompson).

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students, and \$5 for military and ACT students/alumni. To reserve tickets, call the Capitol Theater Box Office at 860-465-5636.

ACT is a public, performing arts magnet high school administered by EASTCONN. ACT is currently recruiting academically motivated students who will enter grades 9-12 in the 2022-23 school year. To learn more about ACT or to download an application, visit www.eastconn.org/act or call 860-465-5636.

Quest Martial Arts students receive promotions

THOMPSON — Grandmaster Mike Bogdanski and Master Kristin Duethorn of Quest Martial Arts announced the promotion of the following students: (Orange Dragon) Cody Lenihan, Noel Leon, Gnan Patel, Isabella Reyes; (Yellow Belt) Evan Ekman, Frederick Zangerl, Grant Donaldson, Aidan Powell, Evoleht Powell, Charlot Rochette; (Orange Black Belt) Nathaniel Franklin; (Blue-White Belt) Mahalia Winsey, Joshua Osborne; (Blue Belt) Layla Benoit; (Blue-Green Belt) Salem Lambert; (Green-Red Belt) Huxley DeSouza; (Blue Belt) Wyatt Campbell, Douglas George, Ron Olivieri Jr.; (Apprentice Black Belt) Olivia Bedard, Georgia Cross, Vincenzo DiMeglio, Anthony Mills, Olivia (CJ) Orthmann, Brynn Perry and Gary Powell.

CT Draft Horse Rescue seeking donations, receives grant

EAST HAMPTON — The CT Draft Horse Rescue 'Raise the Barn'

capital campaign for an indoor barn received \$100,000 for a matching grant challenge.

A 10,080 sq.ft. barn was donated and funds are needed to bring the barn to Autumn Ridge and begin construction. The barn plans include 42 stalls modified to a floor plan to suit farm needs, a medical stall, a vet/farrier treatment area, a feed room, meeting/classroom area, wash stalls, and bathrooms.

The Kaman Family Foundation has pledged \$100,000 when CDHR reaches the challenge amount of \$100,000 between now and the end of February 2022. Over \$30,000 has already been raised and they are seeking help to reach the challenge amount.

Currently, the CDHR has taken in all of the horses it can safely accommodate; however, more horses are in need of care and are currently on a waiting list. Donations toward this capital campaign will help them build a versatile barn and allow them to better accommodate the horses in their care. Visit <https://www.ctdraftrescue.org/raisethebarn> for more information or to donate.

The CDHR is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in East Hampton, CT that is dedicated to saving the lives of draft horses that were bound for slaughter, in addition to victims of starvation, neglect, or abuse whose owners are unable to provide for their needs.

Cragin Book Club taking place at end of January

COLCHESTER — The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, Jan. 31, at 6 p.m. The book is "Waiting for the Night Song" by Julie Carrick Dalton. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/cmlbookclub> to register. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752.

Relaxation class taking place at Marlborough Arts Center

MARLBOROUGH — A free relaxation class by master teacher Chuck Shad will take place at the Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main St., on Thursday, Jan. 20, from 7 to 8 p.m. Visit <https://marlborougharts.org/> for more information.

**THIS TOOL CAN
COME IN HANDY IN
AN EMERGENCY.**



Backup power can keep you
connected in an emergency.
For more tips visit [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)



FEMA



AIR

LAND

SEA

**START PLANNING YOUR
NEXT GETAWAY**

[TRIBUNE]
PUBLISHING

THE BALTIMORE SUN Chicago Tribune Daily Press
Hartford Courant THE MORNING CALL Orlando Sentinel
SunSentinel The Virginian-Pilot

In Print. Online.

Look For The Travel Section In Your Sunday Publication

SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS

Dunbar Jewelers, friendly and experienced

*We
Appreciate
Your
Business*



Rus



Chuck



Jane



Michele



Hilary



Sander



Ann

The folks at Dunbar take the time to educate you and to listen to your desires, which is so important when you are making personal jewelry selections. People feel comfortable when they walk through the door, as the atmosphere is light, the selections are many. At Dunbar, quality of service is as important as quality of product. Dunbar has been established as one of Connecticut's friendliest and most experienced jewelers.

Dunbar Jewelers has built a reputation for fine quality diamonds and gemstones that are among the best in the industry, specializing in what is considered the world's most brilliant diamonds – GIA certified triple excellent diamonds. We offer New Crisscut by Christopher Designs, a unique line of wedding rings by Lashbrook with more contemporary metals such as wood, zirconium, cobalt, and titanium.

At Dunbar, you will also find a full line of Swarovski Crystal, Willow Tree, Elle, Frederic Duclos, and new to us - Nicole Barr enamel jewelry. Most of their gold chains and bracelets have a lifetime –guarantee.

"We have grown to appreciate quality jewelry over the years," said Chuck. "But one thing we like the most is working with customers." We thank you for your loyalty and for being such an important part of our business over the last thirty-five years. **Without you there is no us.**

Dunbar Jewelers
 435 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, CT 06066
 Phone: 860-872-2425
 Website: www.dunbarjewelers.net
 Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 10-5,
 Thurs. 10-7, Sat. 10-4

Spotlight On Business is a paid advertisement feature



**ADOPT
ME!**

Sweet Thrasher (estimated 10+ years old) has had a hard life, but luck is on his side. He was rescued from a kill-shelter and made his way to CCC, where he hid in his carrier for many months. He finally poked his head out to say hello and discovering its not so bad out here.

Today he is like a totally different cat! He loves getting soft pets, and likes to sit at the front of his crate and meow when he is looking for something good to eat. Please consider making room in your home for this senior boy!

CT CAT CONNECTION | WINDSOR CT
WWW.CTCATCONNECTION.ORG

Movie Reviews FRIDAYS IN Living



Chevy blazes your trail

By William Heald
Special to Courant Community

Some vehicles may not get tons of advertising time or other promotions, but they soldier on quite successfully and have a loyal owner base.

Chevrolet's Trailblazer, for example, has been one of these machines in SUV genre, and it has been through a series of dramatic changes culminating in a 2021 redesign. What was originally a midsize truck-based SUV has steadily evolved into a unibody crossover compact SUV, thus reflecting how the class itself has changed over the years.

It's a crowded group, but Chevy felt this was the best type of vehicle to carry forward the Trailblazer name, and since the compact crossover SUV is one of the most popular types of wagons on the road there's certainly room for more competition. Chevy is counting on this, and has put a lot of work into their latest entry into the crossover fray. The result is the integration of GM's latest powertrain technology and safety features into an attractive, affordable package.

Slotting in-between the Trax and the Equinox in Chevy's CUV family, the Trailblazer rides on a 103.9-inch wheelbase and is available with either front wheel or all wheel drive powertrains and LS, LT, ACTIV and RS trim lines. Two very interesting small-displacement engines are available depending on drive system; the front-drive can be had with either a turbocharged 1.2-liter inline triple with 137 horsepower or a turbocharged 1.3-liter inline triple with 155 horsepower.

The AWD Trailblazers get the 1.3-liter exclusively. As for gearboxes, the front driv-

ers get a continuously variable transmission (CVT) while AWD variants get a conventional 9-speed automatic unit. A nice feature is a 2WD/AWD buttons, so you can run on front drive only to conserve fuel when desired.

We spent a week with an Trailblazer AWD RS powered by the 1.3-liter, and response was acceptably peppy considering many motorcycles actually have bigger engines. Turbocharging does wonders in the thrust department, and while the 9-speed automatic transmission shifted frequently to optimize power delivery there was a decent amount of scoot on tap. Fuel economy is good but not class-leading, and properly equipped the Trailblazer can tow a 1,000 lb. trailer.

Armed with a full complement of driver aides thanks to Chevy's Safety Assist, perhaps the most impressive quality to our RS model was the passenger accommodations.

Even though this is an CUV with a small exterior footprint, interior room is surprisingly generous. Upholstery is textile and leatherette, with good support. What is more impressive is the rear seat, for while the bench itself is a tad on the flat side room is plentiful (GM says it's best in class, and I believe it). With the seatbacks folded, the modest cargo area expands to 54 cubic feet. There are interesting interior details, and the ride quality is polished but handling is slightly compromised by a top-heavy feel during hard cornering.

The 2022 Chevrolet Trailblazer AWD RS is EPA rated 26 MPG city/30 highway and has a base price of \$27,200. With options, our sticker came to \$33,000. www.chevy.com



WILLIAM HEALD / SPECIAL TO COURANT COMMUNITY



“Early detection gave us more time to find information and support together.”

If you’re noticing changes,
it could be Alzheimer’s.
Talk about visiting
a doctor together.

ALZ.org/TimeToTalk



alzheimer’s 
association®

LEGAL SERVICES

BANKRUPTCY

BANKRUPTCY
 Chapter 7 Chapter 13

Susan M. Williams, LLC
 Attorney at Law



Over 25 Years Experience
 Licensed in
 Connecticut & Massachusetts

Prevent or Stop Foreclosure • Eliminate Debt
 Stop Wage Garnishments • Stop Creditor Harassment
Call today and obtain your fresh start!

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

860.745.6611

www.williams-law.com

146 High Street, Enfield CT • 100 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT
 Attorney Williams has been designated by Congress as a Debt Relief Agency. Attorney Williams has been helping people file for bankruptcy under the United States Code since 1990.

BANKRUPTCY

Law Office of
Bonnie C. Mangan, P.C.



- Bankruptcy Chapter 7 & 13
- Real Estate (Purchase, Sale, Refinance)
- Simple Wills
- Probate & Estate Settlement
- Uncontested Divorce & Divorce Mediation
- Personal Injury

Free Consultation
 Get your Fresh Start today!

Westview Office Park, 1050 Sullivan Avenue,
 Suite A3, South Windsor, CT, 06074

860-644-4204

www.manganlaw.com
 Serving Clients since 1988

Buy and Sell

**Courant
 Community**

CLASSIFIEDS

888-456-2211

COURANTCOMMUNITY.COM

HOME AND GARDEN

Debris Hauling

**A DUMP RUNS
 YOU NAME IT!
 WE HAUL IT!**
**GARAGES • ATTICS
 BASEMENTS
 JUNK REMOVAL
 SENIOR DISCOUNT
 FREE ESTIMATES
 I'LL BEAT ANY ESTIMATE!**
860-875-2931

Handyman

**Bill The
 Handyman®**

860-654-0180

Reg. #554105

Heating/ Air Conditioning

A-1 PROPANE

PROPANE DELIVERY-LOW PRICES
 PROPANE TANKS-ALL SIZES

860-643-1552
a1propane.com HOD 1031

A-1 TANKMASTERS

OIL TANKS-ALL SIZES
 REMOVALS-REPLACEMENTS
 FREE QUOTES

860-643-5134
a1tankmasters.com

E-Z OIL

LOW PRICE HEATING OIL SPECIAL
 CALL TODAY
 HOME DELIVERY
860-645-3758 HOD 0058

Home Improvement

**CITYWIDE
 HOMES**

FULL SERVICE REMODELERS

Sick of poor service and generic quality from contractors? We return every call, email, and text. We keep every appointment. We stay educated and on-trend. No job is too big or too small. We are trustworthy and honest.

FOR PICS AND REVIEWS GO TO OUR GOOGLE LISTING AND CITYWIDEHOMESCT.COM

Kitchens, baths, tile, flooring, drywall, paint, windows, doors, decks, siding, roofs, and everything else.

Call us at 860-836-0297
ALL CALLS RETURNED - GUARANTEED!

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED • LIC # HIC.0639110

Painting

**FOUR SEASONS
 PAINTERS, LLC**

Specializing in All Phases of
 Interior Painting, Staining,
 Tex. Ceilings, Tex. Removal,
 WP Removal, Rep. Windows.
 Home Improvements & Carpentry.

FREE Est • Insured • #574298

KEVIN GREER

860-646-7760

fourseasonspainters.net

Firewood

ALL SEASON FIREWOOD

Cut, Split & Delivered. \$225/cord
 Call Karl 860-429-7919

BUY & SELL

ALWAYS BUYING ANTIQUES Military, Old Sports Mem, Jewelry, Watches, Coins, Art, Advertising, Old Arcade, Toys, Old Auto Parts, Phonographs, Microphones. Plus lots of other old items! Cash Paid! Call 860-718-5132

ANTIQUES Always buying. Cash paid. 1 item or entire estate! Clocks, military, cameras, watches, toys, posters, art, jewelry, signs, musical instruments. Plus more! (860) 707-9350
 WANTED: RADIOS - short Wave, Ham, CB, Vintage electronics, amps, Tube electronics. Old guitars. Audio Equip. Musical Instruments Please call 860-707-9350

JONES
 HEATING SERVICE, LLC



SERVICE AND
 INSTALLATION

24 YEARS
 EXPERIENCE

BOILER / FURNACE
 REPLACEMENTS

ERIC JONES - Owner

WEEKNIGHT AND WEEKEND APPTS.

860-429-1599

860-550-0169

CT Lic. #392833 and Insured

TRINKS
 BROTHERS OIL

THE SMARTEST WAY TO BUY OIL

Senior and Volume Discount

Automatic delivery at NO EXTRA COST

Heating/Air Conditioning/Maintenance

Repair/Installation

24 Hour Burner Service Available

860-648-4400

www.TrinksBrothers.com

Lic.# S1395747



HOD 485

SEE OUR CLASSIFIEDS ONLINE
COURANTCOMMUNITY.COM

**Courant
 Community**
 CLASSIFIEDS

BUY and SELL
sporting
goods

Courant
Community

CLASSIFIEDS

888-456-2211

COURANTCOMMUNITY.COM

Designers' trends to get your kitchen and bathroom ready for 2022



(BPT) - Life at home has changed a lot and, for many people, being "on trend" has taken a backseat to designing around their needs. When it comes to styling your kitchen and bathroom, taking time to choose stylish, yet lasting options, will improve the look and feel of your space for years.

Delta Faucet Company product designers and Delta Faucet lighting partner Kichler Lighting are sharing the timeless kitchen and bathroom trends they're seeing in real customers' homes that will last well beyond the next trip around the sun.

2022 Trend 1: Comfort Comes First

"Homes are our safe space from what's happening in the world," said AJ Tentler, Delta Faucet Company industrial designer. "Items, colors and finishes need to reflect that feeling of relaxed comfort."

Sharp edges and harsh lines are out. We're now craving curves and softer lines to create a relaxing and calming oasis. Warm greys and wood in its natural state are coming together in both kitchens and bathrooms to create spaces that never feel forced.

2022 Trend 2: Hidden Helpfulness

"The features that will gain the most momentum are things that aid your daily function," said Maris Park Borris, Delta Faucet industrial designer. "It will be more about hidden helpfulness."

Simple interactions that make daily life easier is the future of technology. Smart outlets and switches add a world of customization to lighting. In faucets, intuitive functions, like technology that turns on a faucet with a simple touch, is just one example of unseen technology that improves daily life.

2022 Trend 3: Designs You Can Feel

"We've been in sensory deprivation for the last year," said Park Borris. "People are craving both visual and physical texture."

Texture and finish are going to be more in-focus than ever. Wallpaper that adds a tactile and visual texture, or fixture finishes, can create an emotional connection with a huge impact on a space.

2022 Trend 4: Mix and Match

"We can add eclecticism and our own style - like traditional knobs in a modern kitchen," said Park Borris.

We're all searching for ways to make a space our own. Mixing and matching styles and finishes is a unique way to accomplish that. Farmhouse blended with Scandinavian styles. A gold-hued shower head with black shower doors. It's all about what speaks to you.

2022 Trend 5: Timelessly Tailored

"In 2022, customizable sconces are on the rise," said Greg Martin, Kichler Lighting creative director. "Being able to have moveable arms, pin-up and plug-in options allow you to curate your own look."

Tailored, purposeful and customized pieces are everywhere. We no longer want to keep up with the Joneses. Instead, we want unique spaces that reflect our individual style. Updates that people can do themselves make homes feel more customized and ownable.

2022 Trend 6: Outside In

"There's a feeling of connection and warmth derived from the coziness and luxury of plants," said Ben Stoler, Delta Faucet Company industrial designer.

Plants have a purifying quality and make a space feel fresh and alive. Adding greenery can add a calming and de-stressing feeling to a room, further building your very own oasis.

Craving more kitchen and bathroom trends? Get inspired at deltafaucet.com/blogs.

Lots & More

Housewares • Birding • Pets • Tools • Health & Beauty • Cleaning Supplies
Plastics • Painting • Winter Essentials and so much more!

Join Our Team Today!
Help Wanted in All Locations
Applications available in
South Windsor and Willington

<p>Melissa & Doug Everyday Low Prices</p>	<p>Puzzles Great Selection!</p>	<p>PPE Everyday Low Prices</p>	<p>Garbage Bags Everyday Low Prices</p>	<p>Suet 99 Reg 1.29</p>
<p>Yellow Jacket Cord 100' 49.99 Reg 69.99</p>	<p>Sledge Hammer 8 lb 16.99 Reg 23.99</p>	<p>Stanley Fat Max 25' 14.99 Reg 19.99</p>	<p>Prestone Antifreeze 1 gallon 12.99 Reg 16.99</p>	<p>Motor Oil 1.25 gallon 12.99 Reg 16.99</p>
<p>Booster Cables 19.99 Reg 26.99</p>	<p>Plier & Wrench Set 10 pc 19.99 Reg 29.99</p>	<p>Ratchet Binder 3/8" x 5/16" 29.99 Reg 39.99</p>	<p>Ratchet Tie Downs 6 pc 1"x12' 14.99 Reg 19.99</p>	<p>Ratcheting Bar Clamp 36" 12.99 Reg 16.99</p>
<p>Bench Vise 39.99 Reg 54.99</p>	<p>Winter Essentials</p>			<p>Stock up Today! Bulk Salt Untreated & Treated Starting at \$110 yd.</p>

GreatRateRentals

770 Sullivan Ave, South Windsor
(860) 289-7821

Chippers
Bandit 65XP \$249/day
Bandit 12XP \$299/day
Bandit 18XP \$399/day

Bobcat T450 Track Loader \$229/day*
Bobcat T590 Track Loader \$259/day*

Bobcat MT55 Mini Track Loader \$145/day*
Bobcat MT85 Mini Track Loader \$159/day*

S450 Skid-steer \$159/day*

Bobcat E10 Excavator \$149/day*
Bobcat E20 Excavator \$175/day*
Bobcat E26 Excavator \$219/day*
Bobcat E32 Excavator \$229/day*
Bobcat E35i Excavator \$249/day*
Bobcat E42 Excavator \$299/day*

Kubota b26 \$219/day*

Kubota bx23 \$149/day*

Kubota kx57 \$399/day*

Kubota kx80 \$449/day*

CAT249d3 \$259/day*
CAT259d3 \$289/day*

CAT232d3 \$199/day*
CAT242d3 \$225/day*

GS1930 \$99/day
GS2632 \$109/day
260MRT \$119/day

Daily & Monthly Rates Available

TRAILER RENTALS AVAILABLE

greatraterentals.com

WINTER RENTALS

Bobcat MT55 Mini Track Loader \$700/month*
Bobcat MT85 Mini Track Loader \$800/month*

Bobcat T450 Track Loader \$1300/month*
Bobcat T590 Track Loader \$1500/month*

John Deere 320g \$1500/month*

CAT 232d3 Skid-steer \$1500/month*
CAT 242d3 Skid-steer \$1600/month*

8085T Wacker Loader \$2500/month*

Takeuchi TW80 \$2500/month*

*Per month plus delivery and/or fuel
Plow or pusher available for extra charge

RESERVE YOUR MACHINE TODAY - BOOKING QUICKLY

DRIVERS WANTED

APPLY AT ANY LOCATION

770 Sullivan Ave, South Windsor • 860-289-7821
1375 Silver Lane, East Hartford • 860-519-5610
11 Phelps Way, Willington • 860-477-0755

Lots & More LLC makes every effort to have all advertised merchandise on hand at each sale; however, due to sale and/or manufacturing availability, some items may not be available. Please note that photographs may at times, vary slightly from actual items on hand. Lots & More, LLC cannot be held responsible for printing errors within this publication. All sale items while supplies last. *Some restrictions apply. NO RAIN CHECKS. PRICES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 13 - JANUARY 19, 2022.

Mon. - Sat. - 8am - 7pm • Sun. 9am - 6pm
Closed for Season
Mon. - Sat. - 9am - 7pm • Sun. 9am - 6pm